

MINUTES OF THE HOWARD COUNTY PLANNING BOARD
FY 2009 CAPITAL PROJECTS HEARING
February 13, 2008

Members Present: David A. Grabowski, Vice-Chairperson; Linda A. Dombrowski;
Gary Rosenbaum

Members Absent: Tammy J. CitaraManis, Chairperson; Ramsey Alexander, Jr.

Staff Present: Marsha S. McLaughlin, Director; William Mackey; Randy Clay;
Lisa Hill

Mr. Grabowski opened the public hearing at approximately 7:11 p.m. and explained the order and process of the public hearing. He advised that the record for written public comment would remain open until 5:00 p.m. on Friday, February 15, 2008 and that the worksession would be held on Wednesday, February 20, 2008, at 9:15 a.m. in the Tyson Room.

County Agency Testimony

Lynn Coleman of the Howard County Community College briefly explained the College's two new projects which implement the final stages of their master plan. The projects are M-0544 FY 2013 Business/Computer Systems and Social Science Education Building and M-0545 FY 2015 Maintenance Building.

George Becker of the Howard County Public School System requested support of the School's \$118,000,045 budget for FY 2009. He summarized the new and substantially changed projects which include E1013 - Northfield Elementary renovation adding 6 new classrooms and other upgrades; E1014 - SBR Sequencing Batch Reactor to serve both Triadelphia Ridge Elementary and Folly Quarter Middle schools for septic system treatment; E1015 - Atholton High Renovations; E1016 - High School Technical Education Program expansion, and; E1017 - Data Center Relocation to old Bushy Park School.

Gary Arthur, Director of the Howard County Department of Recreation and Parks explained the new capital project N3971 for Forest Conservation Mitigation Easement Program. He stated that it was for the purchase of easements on non-County owned property and planting of forest mitigation utilizing developer fees. Mr. Arthur also requested support for the continuation of the Blaindair Park project and the Robinson Nature Center. He advised that the Robinson Nature Center will provide environmental education in conjunction with the Public School System and stated that Platinum LEED certification for the building is anticipated. Mr. Arthur also discussed the need to continue the N. Laurel Community Center and Park which is being done in combination with the Department of Public Works capital project C0304.

Major Kevin Burnett of the Howard County Police Department spoke in support of project C0315 which will allow for E-citations, revolutionizing the way citations are processed, saving time and money.

Ronald Lepson of the Department of Public Works deferred his testimony until after citizen testimony.

Citizen Testimony on School Projects

Jim Boden of 2238 Mt. Hebron Drive, speaking on behalf of the Mt. Hebron Committee requested that no FY 2009 funding be granted for Mt. Hebron High School project. He stated the community is questioning the project and that the renovation included too many deficiencies and unknowns.

Mahaila Amjad of 3292 Kaiser Drive, stated as a student of Mt. Hebron High School that the plan being proposed addressed only some concerns and that he students would rather deal with current conditions than implement the proposed plan.

Beth Connor of 13364 Hunt Ridge, stated that more information was needed regarding Project C0315, Tridelphia Ridge SBR before funding is moved forward.

George Becker of Howard County Public Schools Construction stated that SBR is need in order for the Sate of Maryland to continue to process waste water without the new system. He explained that the Design would be completed first and then a public meeting will be held to discuss the project. Mr. Becker also explained that this is a requirement of the State as current septic systems are not meeting the requirements of nitrates. He explained that there would be no discharging into the stream, but will discharge into existing septic system.

Bruce Gist, Director of School Construction, stated that location has yet to be determined, but currently looking somewhere between the two schools. He explained that pumping considerations are secondary to the operation of the septic and that design and location will be determined.

Citizen Testimony on Recreation and Parks Projects

Mary Rekus of 9414 Madison Avenue, Laurel Maryland testified in support of N3940 N. Laurel Park and Community Center, stating that N. Laurel is underserved as a park and recreation facility and that elementary and middle schools are overbooked, therefore many families go out of the county for recreation services and pay out of county fees.

Citizen Testimony on Public Works Projects

Phillips Engeke of 6164 Encounter Row, Columbia, spoke in support of C0282 stating that the plan is vital to the redevelopment of Oakland Mills and that Meridian Square with County Offices would provide business to the area.

Angie Beltram of 3125 Paulskirk Drive, Ellicott City testified against C0282 stating her opinion that expansion of Meridian Square and other areas in Gateway and Dorsey would eliminate improvements to the Ellicott City campus.

Road Construction

Thomas Hard of 2070 Sanner Road Clarksville spoke against J-4230, Sanner Road Widening stating concerns regarding traffic and houses being too close to the road, as well as decrease property values as road would be a busy road, not a community road.

Wayne Funkhausen, of 7358 Sanner Road, Clarksville testified in opposition of J-4230, stating his concerns regarding speeding, danger to children waiting for school buses as well as decreasing property values along Sanner Road.

David Wilkinsen of 7036 River Hill Court, opposed to J-4230 stating his concerns regarding traffic congestion.

Georgina Stevens of 7033 River Oak Court, Clarksville testified in opposition of J-4230 stating her concerns regarding traffic congestion as well as speeding.

Alex Savage of 7010 River Oak Court, Clarksville spoke on behalf of the Clarksville Homeowners Association in opposition of J-4230 stating their concerns regarding traffic issues.

Ade Adetunji of 7354 Sanner Road concerned about widening of Sanner Road due to traffic and speeding issues.

Jack Lorenz of 7530 Sanner Road, opposed J-4320 stating that the project is not necessary and that speeding is currently an issue and would only be worse if the road was widened.

David Pang, of 6979 Trail Court, Clarksville spoke in opposition to J-4230 stating his concerns regarding increased noise level and traffic issues.

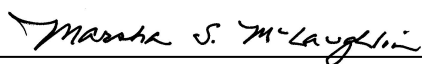
Ronald Lepson of the Department of Planning and Zoning stated that the Sanner Road project will not be funded until 2011 and that they consider the Capital Improvement Program as a full 10 year program to make citizens aware of intent of projects as well as stimulate interest. He also stated that the Department would contact citizens to address concerns expressed during the public meeting.

Cynthia Kleinmeyer of 8516 Spring Way Road Ellicott City, speaking on behalf of Spring Ridge Homeowner's Association spoke in opposition of S-6271 stating that the Public Works Board has not approved the project and the acquirement of the easement has not been negotiated with the County. She also stated the need for all HOA members need to be involved in a public meeting before the project moves forward.

Monica Michovick of 8504 Springway Road, opposed S-6271 stating that the Spring Ridge HOA requested DPW to extend the Public Works Board review of the project past March 11th.

Frank Chase of 4975 Dalton Drive 21045, requested approval of project S-6270 for a sewer line extension.

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS, THE PLANNING BOARD ADJOURNED AT APPROXIMATELY 9:30 P.M.



Marsha McLaughlin
Executive Secretary



Lisa Hill
Recording Secretary